

# The Government Finance Officers Association of SC Newsletter

Volume 14, Issue 1

Spring 2006

## 2006 Spring Conference “Share the Wealth ~ Your Knowledge Is Our Treasure” Sherry Martin ~ Spring Conference Chair

The GFOASC Spring Conference will be held May 4, 2006 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center (formerly the Columbian Hotel), 2100 Bush River Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29210. The Spring Conference Committee has done an awesome job in seeking excellent speakers for this year's conference. We are honored to have Mr. Joe E. Taylor, Jr., Secretary of Commerce, and Mr. Charles P. Austin, Sr., City Manager of Columbia, as our keynote speakers. Please visit our Web site ([www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)) for information on all our exceptional speakers who will be presenting this year.

Keep in mind, attending the conference will be a great way to acquire CPE credits, network with fellow members and associates, and obtain a wealth of knowledge. The cost is only \$65.00 for members and \$115.00 for non members so please mark your calendar for this one day event!

Additionally, GFOASC would like to express an enormous “**thank you**” to the following 2006 Spring Conference Committee members for their endless dedication in ensuring this year's conference is a great success!

**Sherry Martin, Chair**  
Department of Commerce  
**Jennifer Broughton, Co-Chair**  
SCESC

**Missy Coker**  
Williamsburg Technical College

**Doug Cooper**  
DHEC

**Ann Epting**  
Adjutant General's Office

**Matt Evans**  
Clarendon County Treasurer

**Scott Ludlam**  
SC Arts Commission

**John Marcucci**  
DHEC

**Melanie Merritt**  
Dept of Parks, Recreation  
and Tourism

**Cassandra Phibbs**  
Dept of Probation, Parole  
and Pardon

**Juan Sims**  
Commission for the Blind

Please email me ([smartin@sccommerce.com](mailto:smartin@sccommerce.com)) or Lynne Lee ([lslee@sc.rr.com](mailto:lslee@sc.rr.com)) if you have any questions or suggestions concerning the GFOASC Spring Conference. **This is “your” conference so please register today!**



Providing up-to-date information and news affecting the government finance officer profession in South Carolina.

### Inside this issue:

2006 President	2
2006 Fall Conference	2
Certification	3
Scholarships	3
Membership	4
GFOA National	4
Luncheon Information	5
CPE Registration	1
Spring Conference Reg.	1

### Visit our Web Site Often!

Let us know what you think—this is your tool!  
[www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)

## From Your President ~ Tim O'Dell, CPA

### *SPRING FEVER*

The Bradford pear trees and the daffodils are in bloom. The smell of fresh cut grass will soon be in the air, and I have a burning desire to grab the rod and reel and head for the riverbank. Yep, I've got it....and I've got it bad. It happens about this time every year. That magical time when the air warms, the days grow longer and I feel a nostalgic return to the days when I was but a wee young sprout looking forward to a summer of youthful discovery. Ah...but alas, an over abundance of yard work sends spring fever "packing" and returns me to the reality of the Advil bottle, and the fact that I'm an old dude. Not too old to enjoy the beckoning of another spring, but "not as good as I once was", as Toby Keith would say.

Now that I have that "out of my system", let's talk GFOA. The 2006 Spring Conference is just around the corner. Mark your calendars for May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Spring Conference Committee is putting together an interesting and information packed day for our membership.

The 2006 Fall Conference Committee has already met and began plans for this autumn. The new Board is in place and has started the year with a bang. We have a renewed commitment to market our organization to those that may not be aware of the advantages of membership. The Membership and the Public Relations Committees are campaigning to "get the word out" about GFOASC. The National Conference in Montreal, Quebec is just around the corner. The dates are May 7-10, 2006. Check out our Web site for details. We would love to have a large group of government finance professionals attend from the Palmetto State! We also have some great CPE opportunities coming up throughout the year. Stay tuned to our Web site. Visit it often...it's free!

If you have ideas or suggestions that you feel would benefit our organization, please let us know! We are here to serve you.

Enjoy the season,  
El Presidente

## 2006 Annual Fall Conference

*Carol Martin ~ Fall Conference Chair*

The GFOASC Fall Conference will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup> and we will return to the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel.

We have a very diverse group for the Fall Conference Committee and we have met and come up with a great variety of sessions for this year. I hope you all will plan to attend. This conference offers a great value with an average of 16 units of CPE. I am looking forward to seeing all of you there. Please watch the Web site for more details as they become available. ([www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)) If you have ideas or suggestions, please visit the site and let us know—we are happy to hear from you!

*Don't miss this great CPE and networking opportunity!*



### **2006 Fall Conference Committee**

Carol Martin – B&C Board/CIO, Chair  
Ann Epting – Adjutant General's Office  
Frances Derrick – Department of LLR  
Missy Coker – Williamsburg Technical College  
Cassandra Phibbs – Probation, Pardon & Parole  
Pat Blackwell – University of SC  
Parker Boulware – Department of LLR  
Jennifer Broughton – SCESC  
Gerry Sanders – Richland County  
Kristi Hornsby – County of Lexington  
Sherry Martin – Department of Commerce  
Tim O'Dell – Florence-Darlington Technical College  
Steve Gibson – City of Rock Hill  
Herb Walker – Department of Consumer Affairs  
Matt Evans – Clarendon County Treasurer

## Certification Committee Update

*Cheryl Allen-Lint, CGFO ~ Certification Committee Chair*

Remember that the 2005 CPE reports were due by February 28, 2006. If you haven't turned yours in yet, you need to send it in no later than May 31st along with a \$15 late fee. The late fee goes up to \$25 after this, and the final deadline is July 31st, after which certifications can be revoked if no report is received. Blank forms can be downloaded from our Web site at [www.gfoasc.com/recertif.htm](http://www.gfoasc.com/recertif.htm) (the Certification link).

USC has announced that the 2006 Certification exam dates will be May 18th and 19th. The exams will be held at the University of South Carolina, 1600 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC in room 402. The registration fee is \$50. per person for each examination. The registration form can be downloaded from the same Web address listed above.

The Certification Committee has been established for 2006 as follows:

Cheryl Allen-Lint, Chair  
Doug Cooper  
Terry L. Booth  
Angie McInchok

Angela Feaster  
Ian MacLean  
Maisy Babbitt  
Wayne Chamblee  
Billy Martin  
Frances Derrick

We appreciate these people being willing to serve on this important committee!

The Certification Guidelines have been updated and are on the Web site (see above address). The only change to previous requirements/procedures is that beginning in 2006 (reported in 2007) all carry forward hours (up to 10) will be classified as "other". This means that all CGFO's must earn a minimum of 4 hours in the "accounting/budgeting" category each year.

Please let me ([allenlintcr@cctech.edu](mailto:allenlintcr@cctech.edu)) or Lynne Lee ([lslee@sc.rr.com](mailto:lslee@sc.rr.com)) know if you have any questions or concerns about the Certification Program.



## 2006 Scholarships Offered by GFOASC!

*Sherry Martin ~ Scholarship Committee Chair*

### **GFOASC 2006 Scholarships Available**

Please welcome your 2006 GFOASC  
Scholarship Committee!

**Sherry Martin, Chair ~ Department of Commerce**  
**Janice Alonso ~ County of Lexington**  
**Anelle Anderson ~ Midlands Technical College**  
**Billy Martin ~ Employment Security Commission**  
**Melanie Merritt ~ Dept of Parks, Recreation  
and Tourism**

The GFOASC will be offering two academic scholarships again this year. The Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship, in the amount of \$2,000, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public four-year college or university. The Founding Fathers Scholarship, in the amount of \$500, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public two-year college or university. These scholarships will be awarded at the GFOASC Spring Conference on May 4, 2006.

**Submission Deadline:** Application must be received on or before **April 15, 2006**.

The association also awards the Katherine Zook Certification Program Scholarship which covers the costs of registration fees and books for the five certification courses. The applicant must be a member (regular or agency) of the GFOASC. This scholarship will be awarded at the GFOASC Fall Conference in October 2006.

**Submission Deadline:** Application must be received on or before September 15, 2006.

Please visit ([www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)) to download an application or notify Lynne Lee at (803) 951-7371 to obtain an application by mail. The completed application should be submitted to the following address:

Government Finance Officers Association  
Post Office Box 280334  
Columbia, South Carolina 29228  
Attention: Scholarship Committee

We hope to see you at both the GFOASC Spring and Fall Conferences this year!

---

## ***GFOA National Update***

### ***Scott Ludlam, CGFO ~ State Representative to National***

---

GFOA (National) will be hosting their annual conference in Montreal, Canada this year celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Conference dates are May 7-10, 2006. South Carolina has 30 attendees registered to date. GFOASC is sending Tim O'Dell, President, and me, your State Representative, who will represent our great state, and GFOASC. If you are attending please be advised that if you do not have a current valid passport you will need an original birth certificate with a raised seal, not a copy and a photo I.D to enter Canada. Effective December 31, 2006, a passport becomes mandatory. I obtained an original birth certificate from DHEC for \$12.00 here in Columbia. Please check with your airline or the US State Department for more information.

Tim and I will be attending several meetings, one of which is exclusively for state GFOA presidents and state representatives. We use this time to promote GFOASC, and in particular our Fall Conference. Neighboring states, Georgia and NC, could use the opportunity to obtain quality CPE's, as well as network with GFOASC members.

Tim and I will spend a good portion of time in the "vendor hall". National Conference draws about 5,000 attendees and 200 vendors. The vendors are looking for a forum to present their services. We strongly encourage them to attend our fall conference and become a sponsor of GFOASC. Our vendors provide tremendous support and without them we may not have a fall conference or the registration fee would be substantially higher.

National is set up in the same fashion as our fall conference, but on a larger scale. Tuesday's general session speaker will be Pulitzer Prize winning columnist James Broder. Mr. Broder writes for the Washington Post, and is a frequent commentator on *Meet the Press*. Many informative speakers are featured with many concurrent sessions to choose to attend.

I encourage each of you to visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). You will find information regarding the National Conference and other training opportunities.

If you have any questions about National GFOA or the conference in May please call me at 803-734-8699 or email me at [sludlam@arts.state.sc.us](mailto:sludlam@arts.state.sc.us).



---

## **Membership Committee Update**

### *Terry L. Booth, CPA, CGFO ~ Membership Committee Chair*

---

The Membership Committee has been established for 2006. I appreciate the following individuals who have agreed to serve with me on this committee:

Russell Brown  
Stacey Hamm, CGFO  
Debbie Walker, CGFO  
Scott Ludlam, CGFO

The goal of the Membership Committee this year will be to increase memberships in the GFOASC. We will do this by organizing an effective recruitment program to gain new members, and by following up on existing members who have not yet paid their dues for the year.

Please feel free to email me ([boothtl@cctech.edu](mailto:boothtl@cctech.edu)) or call me at (803) 778-6624 if you have suggestions for our committee. Thanks for your support!

---



### GFOASC Web Site

Don't forget to visit the  
GFOASC Web site regularly!  
Updated information and forms are  
located there first!

We have started billing and issuing  
receipts via email whenever possible.

Please make sure we have your  
current email address.

Please visit the Memberclicks sec-  
tion of the site regularly. We will be  
posting information on our new fea-  
tures as they become available.

Post items to the bulletin board  
now or vote in one of our polls.!

[www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com)



Please let us know if you have  
not received an invoice or renewal form for  
membership for 2006.

If you participate in a CPE class or confer-  
ence as a member, you will be billed for  
2006 dues, if they have not been paid.

### 2006 Continuing Professional Education Schedule Online Now!

The full CPE schedule for 2006 is available online with registration  
forms. Register now—You won't find a better CPE value. Please let us  
know if you have questions or need further information on any  
of the classes. Visit [www.gfoasc.com](http://www.gfoasc.com) and click on the CPE link!

April 14, 2006 ~ What You Don't Do Can Hurt You!  
June 16, 2006 ~ Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update  
August 25, 2006 ~ The Politics of Budgeting  
All of the above classes will be held at Seawells in Columbia.

### GFOASC Luncheons

Our first quarterly luncheon was held at Grecian Gardens on  
March 23rd. We had a great turnout and the food was delicious.  
Brandolyn Pinkston was our guest speaker and shared many tips  
on how to avoid consumer fraud. The dates for our upcoming  
luncheons are below and will also be held at the Grecian Gar-  
dens Restaurant.

Thursday, June 8th

Thursday, September 7th

Thursday, November 9th

Please mark your calendars. The speakers for the luncheons will  
be posted on the Web site as soon as the information becomes  
available.

## Government Finance Officers Association of SC

P.O. Box 280334  
Columbia, SC 29228  
(803)951-7371 Phone  
(803)349-4892 Fax



### GFOASC Fall Conference Dates

October 15-18, 2006

October 14-17, 2007

October 12-15, 2008

*Myrtle Beach Convention Center*